

DOCKET NO: 240733US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

SHUHEI IKEDA, ET AL.

SERIAL NO: 10/626,612

FILED: JULY 25, 2003

FOR: STEEL SHEET WITH EXCELLENT  
BENDABILITY

: EXAMINER: YEE, DEBORAH

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1742

: RCE FILED: NOVEMBER 16, 2005

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

I, Kenji SAITO, a citizen of Japan,

hereby declare and state that:

1. I have a degree in Ph.D., which was  
conferred upon me in 2005 by Kobe University  
located in Hyogo prefecture.

2. I have been employed by Kobe Steel Ltd  
since 1993 and I have a total of 7 years of work and research experience in the  
field of High Strength Steel Sheets.

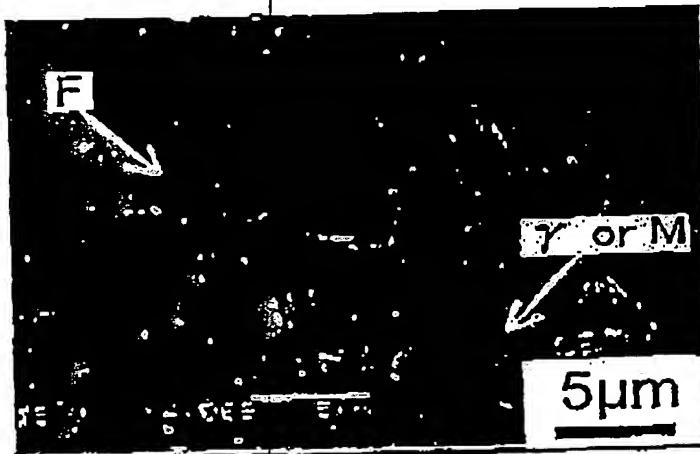
3. The following experiments were carried out by me or under my direct supervision  
and control.

4. Sample No. 3 from the specification at page 16, Table 2, was used as an example  
of a TRIP steel (Example A below).

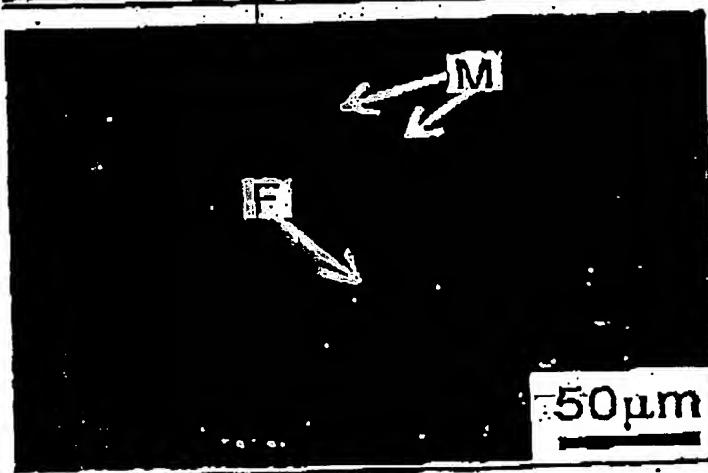
5. Steel C-6 from EP 1 201 780 A1 ("EP-780") at Table 2 was used as an example of a DP steel (Example B below).

6. The TRIP steel (Example A) and the DP steel (Example B) were observed using a Transmission Electron Microscope (TEM). Electron micrographs of Examples A and B are shown below:

A)



B)



In the electron micrographs, "M" means martensite, "F" means ferrite and "γ" means retained austenite.

7. The electron micrographs shown that the area % of each structure is significantly different in Example A than in Example B.

8. The size of the martensite in the DP steel (Example B) is larger than the size of the martensite in the TRIP steel (Example A).

9. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issuing thereon.

10. Further declarant saith not.

Date: Nov. 9, 2006

Kenji SAITO

Kenji SAITO

Declarant's Name (typed)

DOCKET NO: 240733US0



"RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING  
GROUP 1742"

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SECOND DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a citizen of Japan,

hereby declare and state that:

1. I have a degree in \_\_\_\_\_, which was  
conferred upon me in \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_  
located in \_\_\_\_\_.

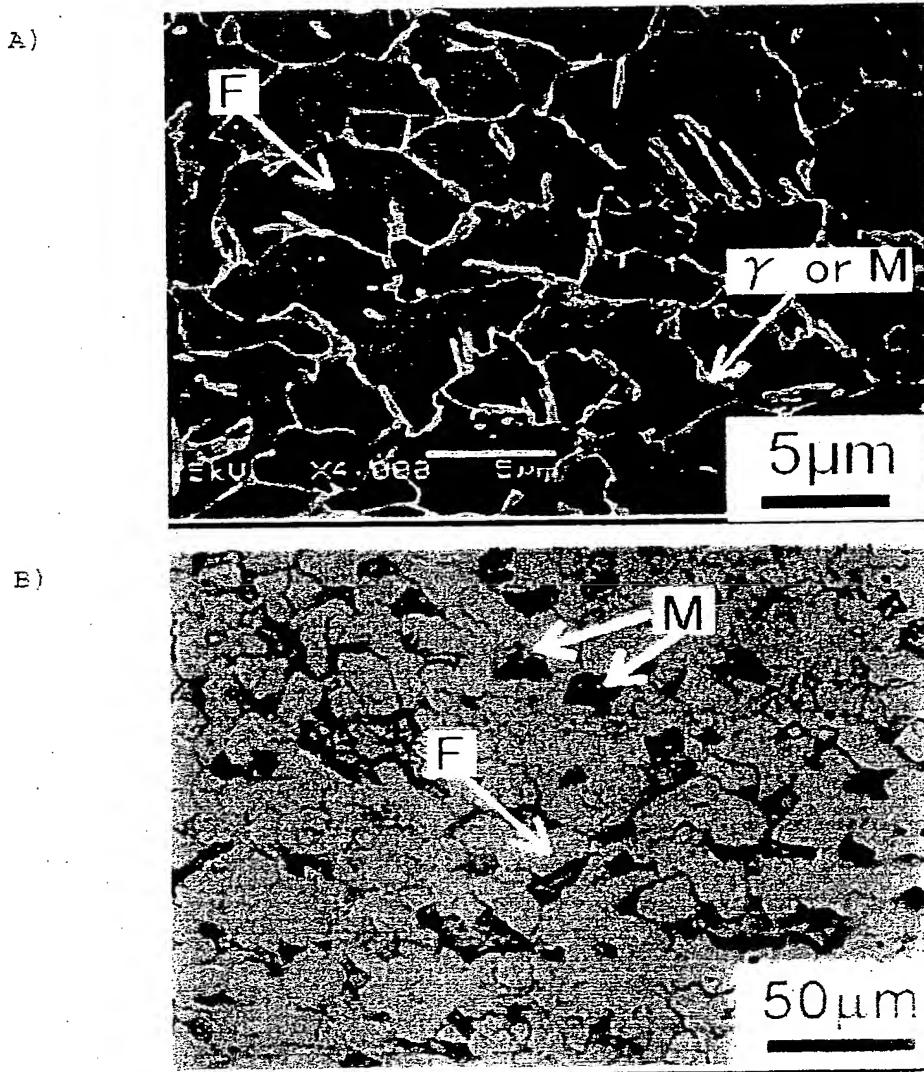
2. I have been employed by \_\_\_\_\_  
since \_\_\_\_\_ and I have a total of \_\_\_\_\_ years of work and research experience in the  
field of \_\_\_\_\_.

3. The following experiments were carried out by me or under my direct supervision  
and control.

4. Sample No. 3 from the specification at page 16, Table 2, was used as an example  
of a TRIP steel (Example A below).

5. Steel C-6 from EP 1 201 780 A1 ("EP-780") at Table 2 was used as an example of a DP steel (Example B below).

6. The TRIP steel (Example A) and the DP steel (Example B) were observed using a Transmission Electron Microscope (TEM). Electron micrographs of Examples A and B are shown below:



In the electron micrographs, "M" means martensite, "F" means ferrite and "γ" means retained austenite.

7. The electron micrographs shown that the area % of each structure is significantly different in Example A than in Example B.

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8. The size of the martensite in the DP steel (Example B) is larger than the size of the martensite in the TRIP steel (Example A).

9. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issuing thereon.

10. Further declarant saith not.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Declarant's Name (typed)